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"There can be no true American solidarity until the various people really know each other—understand each other's point of view, habits of thought, literature and life." He undoubtedly assumed the appreciation on the part of the reader that ignorance is usually the cause of that fatal sequence which continues with suspicion, fear, and hate, to armed conflict.

The author fortifies himself with the statement that his book is not a history. Neither is it propaganda in the usual sense of the word, for while it has an ulterior purpose, it contains only historical facts and quoted statements from leading Americans of both north and south, impartially presented. As a matter of fact, the book consists of quotations to a very considerable extent; at times the reader feels that the author might have curtailed his citation of sources and replaced them with his own critical comments to good advantage. Vast evidence is given of thorough acquaintanceship with the documentary materials pertaining to the development of our sister republics as well as with the correspondence and official statements of the heads of our own government during the past century.

The book is the work of a man imbued with the spirit of a great and worthy cause. It is comprehensive, readable, and in many places vivid. Short lists of sources for further information are appended to each chapter, and a selected bibliography of some seventy titles appears at the end. The book is well designed and constructed, and is strictly up-to-date. It certainly succeeds in one of its primary purposes—that of clearly presenting the forces which make for aloofness or for unity in inter-American relations—and should go far in aiding the accomplishment of the ultimate aim, Pan American solidarity.

Tufts College.

HALFORD L. HOSKINS.

Venezuela: a Commercial and Industrial Handbook. By P. L. BELL, Trade Commissioner. [Special Agents Series, No. 212, of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, of the Department of Commerce.] (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1922. Pp. xvi, 472. Maps; illus.; index. Bound in buckram. \$1.00.)

This handbook maintains in every respect the high standard set by its three predecessors, namely, the handbooks on Bolivia and Paraguay by William Lytle Schurz, now Commercial Attaché in Brazil and that on Colombia, by Mr. Bell. The present book is easily the best general economic work that has ever been written on Venezuela in

English, and probably in any language. Its author knows Venezuela as well as, and probably better than, any other North American, and his work is, therefore, authoritative.

In this substantial volume are discussed the following matters: in the Introduction, general economic position of the country, the language, weights and measures, currency, postage, and telegraph, cable, and wireless service; geography, topography, and climate; population and living conditions; education; national finance; agriculture; tanning materials; mining; petroleum; live stock and cattle raising; fishing industry; manufacturing; Caracas and its commercial district; Maracaibo commercial district; Puerto Cabello and Valencia commercial district; Ciudad Bolivar commercial district; transportation; foreign trade; banks and banking; tariff system and regulations on import trade; commercial practice and requirements; markets for specific classes of merchandise; the Dutch West Indies; and trade lists relating to Venezuela. The material is well arranged and with the topical headings, it is easy to locate specific matters. The index is only mediocre, but it is a relief to find such an aid in a government publication. The several maps are well chosen and fulfill their purpose. In addition to the general map of the country, there are maps showing the petroleum deposits, the several commercial districts, and several of the Dutch West Indies.

Venezuela, by virtue of its numerous ports, which give access to wide stretches of country, Mr. Bell observes, is worthy of study by American interests, "not only for trade but as a new field for the development of natural resources, raw material, and engineering projects". Although European (chiefly German) influence has long been paramount in Venezuela, the influence of the United States is growing. Trade and industry have been given an impetus because of the war. If the business men of the United States would retain their trade with Venezuela and increase it, "the keynote should be an intensive cultivation of the personal relation with Venezuelan business men; better attention to the commercial possibilities and industrial enterprises that need only capital, ingenuity, and ability; and a close and detailed study of the potentialities of the country. Study of the merchandizing needs and requirements and attention to the details of exporting are absolutely essential. Americans who display an interest in Venezuela will be met more than halfway by Venezuelan business men." This is sound advice, not only for the business man but for the professional man who visits this interesting country, and especially for the teacher.

The section on population and living conditions is especially good and

should be read carefully by all travelers to Venezuela. The portions treating of the several industries and of trade are comprehensive and filled with concise information not obtainable elsewhere. The several commercial districts are treated intimately and at length. The Dutch West Indies are here treated because of their proximity to Venezuela and because they lie in the same general trade district with that country. The entire work is the result of personal investigation in Venezuela.

Because of its excellence, this should be a desk book for all exporters, manufacturers, and investors of the United States who are interested in South America. It should also be on the shelves of all teachers of Hispanic American history, because of its basic background material. By all means, should it become a text book in all educational institutions which give courses in foreign trade. A rare service has been performed by the government in its publication.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

Glimpses of South America. By F. A. SHERWOOD. (New York: The Century Co., 1920. Pp. ix, 406. Illus.; index. \$4.00.)

This volume is well named. It is the result of random notes made by its author during two visits to South America. On these two visits he says that he simply followed the beaten track, going into no out-of-the-way places nor enjoying any special privileges. While his visits have been longer than those of the usual traveler, they have not, he says modestly, been long enough for him to interpret the real significance of the contemporaneous life that is going on from year to year in South America. Because his notes, which were jotted down originally merely for the personal amusement of the author, cover exactly the ground that would be covered by the ordinary traveler from the United States, they have been polished up and made into the present volume.

The book, so the author states in his preface (from which the foregoing has been taken), is an unconventional and informal one. However, it is an extremely interesting volume, partly because of this fact, and partly because Mr. Sherwood has had the faculty of careful observation. He has a happy sense of humor which he has not taken pains to exclude from his notes as published. A glance at his table of contents gives no indication of the contents and style of treatment, and the reader, unless warned by the preface (which some through habit will probably skip, thereby depriving themselves in this instance of a pleasure) will come upon a field of nuggets from the outset.

The notes take us to Kingston and Panama, Peru and Chile, over the